

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on Page 6, line 36 and ending on Page 7, line 34 with the paragraph below. Applicant avers that no new matter has been added.

--Figs. 1a to 1e show diagrammatically in top view the circulation route of containers C_m , E representing an empty position. The direction of circulation is indicated by arrows. A conveyance circuit is indicated by reference numeral 2, said conveyance circuit consisting of a longitudinal path 4 and a longitudinal path 6, which is disposed parallel to and adjoining longitudinal path 4. See Fig. 2, which is a diagrammatic side view of the situation shown in Fig. 1a. The longitudinal paths 4 and 6 have opposite angles of inclination of approximately 0.2° , which is greatly exaggerated in this figure for the sake of clarity. For the sake of simplicity, transverse tracks are not shown in these Figures 1 and 2. In the situation shown, each longitudinal path has eight positions for carriers with containers. The longitudinal path 4 is filled with carriers with containers C_1 - C_8 , while the longitudinal path 6 comprises containers C_9 - C_{15} and also has an empty position E that corresponds to the top end position of the longitudinal path 6. The carrier with container C_1 can be moved in a manner to be described in greater detail from the longitudinal path 4 to the empty position E of the longitudinal path 6, so that an empty position E arises in the lowest end position of the longitudinal path 4. See Fig. 1b. By their own weight, the carriers with containers C_2 - C_8 subsequently each drop one position, as shown in Fig. 1c, so that the empty position E now arises at the top end of the longitudinal path 4. The carrier with container C_9 can be lifted up on a vertically movable transverse track until it is above the top end of the longitudinal path 4 and can subsequently be moved along the transverse track to the top position of longitudinal path 4. See Fig. 1d. The empty position E, which is now situated at the bottom end of longitudinal path 6, will be filled by the series of containers C_{10} - C_{15} moving under the influence of gravity, leading to the situation shown in Fig. 1e, from which it can be seen that all containers C have moved up one position. The cycle described above will be repeated during operation of the device according to the invention for the number of times that it takes for a desired container to be situated at a removal point 10, which is preferably the position at

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the bottom end of the top longitudinal path 4, while a supply point 12 is preferably the position at the top end of the bottom longitudinal path 6. Referring to Figure 2, a detection system 11 can be present at both the supply point 12 and the removal point 10 for detection identification of the holders. The detection system 11 can include a first camera 13 positioned at the supply point 12 and a second camera 15 positioned at the removal point 10. The cameras 13 and 15 can detect a coding 17 on the holders.--